

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for updating an offset in a bitstream subsequent to bitstream segment drops using a descriptor comprising descriptor data comprising a reference point in the bitstream and a numerical offset value from the reference point in the bitstream, said reference point and said numerical offset value having the ability to determine a pointer, the method comprising:
 - evaluating whether the offset value has been dropped from the bitstream; and
 - performing, when the offset value has been dropped from the bitstream, at least one from a group comprising:
 - shifting a portion of descriptor data to a next byte when the offset value has been dropped from the bitstream;
 - shifting the portion of descriptor data to a previous byte when the offset value has been dropped from the bitstream; and
 - setting the offset value to zero.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the descriptor comprises an indication of whether to perform shifting the pointer to the next byte, shifting the pointer to the previous byte, or setting the offset value to zero.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the descriptor data shifted comprises at least one from a group comprising the reference point and the pointer.
4. The method of claim 3, further comprising determining validity of at least one of the reference point and pointer before said evaluating.
5. The method of claim 4, wherein an invalid pointer causes shifting of the pointer to a valid byte, and an invalid reference point causes shifting of the reference point to the valid byte.

6. The method of claim 5, further comprising recomputing the offset value upon shifting at least one from a group comprising the pointer and the reference point to the valid byte.

7. The method of claim 1, said method being implemented using XML.

5 8. The method of claim 1, wherein the descriptor further comprises location of the reference point in the bitstream and information regarding a storage value of the offset field in the bitstream.

9. A method for updating offsets in a compressed bitstream upon dropping data from the compressed bitstream using a descriptor, the method
10 comprising:

establishing at least one reference point, at least one numerical offset value, and at least one pointer in the descriptor associated with the compressed bitstream;

evaluating whether dropped data from the compressed bitstream comprises at least a portion of the numerical offset value; and

15 adjusting at least one of the reference point and the pointer when dropped data from the compressed bitstream comprises at least a portion of the numerical offset value.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the descriptor further comprises location of the reference point in the compressed bitstream and information regarding
20 a storage value of the offset field in the compressed bitstream.

11. The method of claim 9, wherein adjusting comprises shifting at least one of the reference point and the pointer to another byte.

12. The method of claim 9, further comprising assessing validity of at least one of the reference point and the pointer, said assessing occurring prior to said
25 adjusting.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein invalidity for the reference point causes adjusting the reference point and invalidity of the pointer causes adjusting of the pointer.

14. The method of claim 9, wherein the method is implemented using
5 XML.

15. A method for updating offset values associated with a compressed resource bitstream after bitstream data drops using a descriptor comprising offset information, the method comprising:

10 evaluating the compressed resource bitstream for dropping of offset information from the descriptor; and

repositioning offset information when the compressed resource bitstream includes dropped offset information from the descriptor.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein offset information from the descriptor comprises:

15 a reference point; and
an offset value.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein evaluating the compressed resource bitstream for dropping of offset information comprises evaluating the compressed resource bitstream for the dropping of the offset value.

20 18. The method of claim 17, wherein repositioning offset information comprises repositioning the reference point.

19. The method of claim 16, further comprising computing a pointer based on the reference point and offset value prior to said evaluating.

20. The method of claim 18, wherein repositioning offset information comprises repositioning at least one from a group comprising the reference point and the pointer.

21. The method of claim 15, wherein the method is implemented using
5 XML.

22. A transcoder for updating offset values associated with a compressed resource bitstream after bitstream data drops using a descriptor comprising offset information, comprising:

a compressed resource bitstream evaluator for evaluating the compressed
10 bitstream for dropping of offset information from the descriptor; and

an offset information repositioner for repositioning offset information when the compressed resource bitstream includes dropped offset information from the descriptor.

23. A system for processing data in a compressed resource bitstream,
15 comprising:

a transcoder for updating offset values associated with the compressed resource bitstream after bitstream data drops using a descriptor comprising offset information, said transcoder comprising:

a compressed resource bitstream evaluator for evaluating the
20 compressed bitstream for dropping of offset information from the descriptor; and

an offset information repositioner for repositioning offset information when the compressed resource bitstream includes dropped offset information from the descriptor.

24. A method for updating an offset in a bitstream subsequent to bitstream
25 segment drops using a descriptor comprising descriptor data, comprising a reference

point in the bitstream and a numerical offset value from the reference point in the bitstream, said reference point and said numerical offset value having the ability to determine a pointer, the method comprising:

determining whether the numerical offset value has been dropped,;

- 5 determining whether at least one of the pointer and the reference point have been removed when the numerical offset value has not been dropped;

determining whether bytes proximate to the pointer and the reference point have been removed; and

- 10 updating the numerical offset value when at least one of the pointer and the reference point have been removed or bytes proximate to the pointer and the reference point have been removed.